concrete for the open manholes, where existing. The Delhi Water Supply and Sewage Disposal Undertaking carries out periodical survey of major trunk sewers and the manhole covers are replaced as and when any cover is found missing.

Collections for Africa Fund

1637. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the steps Government propose to take to collect contributions for the Africa Fund from the citizens of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): The Africa Fund Summit chaired by the Prime Minister of India issued an Appeal to the universal conscience for urgent, concerts and resolute action for the complete dismantling of apartheid. It called upon all nations of the world, international financial and other organisations and individuals to contribute generously to the Fund in demonstration of their unflinching solidarity with the struggle against apartheid.

In response to this Appeal a number of individuals and private organisations are sending their contributions to the Africa Fund. A rupee account has been opened in the State Bank of India, Main Branch, Parliament Street to receive all such contributions.

Activities involving voluntary organisations as well as eminent individuals are under consideration with a view to increasing awareness throughout the country of the Fund and its objectives as well as to mobilising public support.

Arrest of a woman for suspected links with the terrorists

1638. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that one Smt. Kuldeep Kaur was arrested for her suspected links with the terrorists, if so, what are the details thereof; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that the C.B.I. has withdrawn the case against Smt. Kuldeep Kaur, if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir. She was arrested by Delhi Police in connection with a case registered at Police Station Tilak Marg on 31st October, 1986 under Sections 3 and 4 Terrorist and Disruptive Activities (Prevention), Act, 1985. The investigation of the case was later transferred to the Central Bureau of Investigation.

(b) Yes, Sir. During investigation, investigation did not establish any links of the accused with the terrorists or about her financing the terrorists activities in India. The Central Bureau of Investigation filed a Closure Report dated 10-4-87 in the court of the Special Judge, Jammu and the Court allowed the case to be closed and released the accused on 11-4-1987.

Import of pesticides

1639. SHRIMATI PRATIBHA SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of technical grades of pesticides and their formulations for which imports are allowed under OGL and various other provisions of the current Import Policy;

(b) whether it is a fact that various formulators of pesticides are importing such technical pesticides for which there is glut with the indigenous technical pesticides manufacturers; and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) to (c) Some of the pesticides that are allowed to be imported under OGL are listed in Serial No. 172 of Appendix 6, List 8, Part I of the Import & Export Policy, 1985—88 (Volume—I) copies of which are available in Parliament Library. Import of their formulations and other pesticides is allowed under Serial No. 219 of Appendix 3, Part A and Serial No. 46 of Appendix 2, Part B of the aforesaid Policy, under Supplementary Licensing Procedure, after taking into account indigenous availability and other related factors.

Purchase of Polyester Staple Fibre by NTC

1640. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that M/s National Textiles Corporation had purchased a huge quantity of Polyester Staple Fibre at a very high rate recently; whereas the market rate in the month of March, 1987 was much less than that;

(b) whether it is a fact that in spite of there being not so much requirement, several crores were paid to this company in the month of March to lift the entire quantity; and

(c) whether it is a fact that because of the above M/s. National Textiles Corporation has lost a huge amount of money in the month of March, 1987 by way of loss of interest and payment of high prices?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) NTC had contracted in December, 1986 the purchase of 1000 MT of Polyester Staple fibre on competative terms.

(b) The quantity contracted was based on the assessment of requirement for the period from January, 1987 to March, 1987.

(c) No, Sir.

Per Capita availability of cloth

1641. SHRI KALPNATH RAI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what was the per capita availability of cloth in the country during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether the per capita availability of cloth has been increasing during these years;

(c) if not, what steps are being taken to increase the per capita availability of cloth; and

(d) what steps are being taken to make more cloth of the standard varieties available to the economically weaker sections?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) The per capita availability of cloth (cotton, blended/mixed and 100 per cent non-cotton) during the last three years is given below:

(Figures in mtrs)

Year	Per capita availability of cloth
1984	14.452
1985	14.84
1986	15.01

(b) and (c) It will be observed from the figures indicated at (a) above that there has been increase in the availability of cloth over the years.